

REMARKS

Applicant acknowledges receipt of the Office Action dated June 6, 2006.

Applicant noticed a discrepancy with respect to the Examiner's name and art unit between the front-page of the Office Action (PTO-90C form) and the Office Action Summary & Detailed Action. Since the art unit 1652 listed in the PTO-90C form addresses inventions pertaining to 'Recombinant Enzymes' which is not part of the field of endeavor of this Application, Applicant has presumed a clerical error and has submitted this Response to the Examiner from art unit 1754 who signed the Office Action of June 6, 2006. However, if Applicant erred in making such assumption, it is respectfully requested to forward such Response to the appropriate Examiner.

In the Office Action dated June 6, 2006, the Examiner entered a Restriction Requirement for original Claims 1-38. The Restriction Groups were set out as follows:

Group I. 1-16 drawn to a catalyst;

Group II. 17-27 drawn to a process for producing synthesis gas;

Group III. 28-38 drawn to a hydrocarbon gas to liquid conversion process using a catalyst.

Election without Traverse

With this Response, Applicant elects to prosecute without traverse the claims of Group II (Claims 17-27). Applicant reserves the right to prosecute the non-elected inventions of Group I (Claims 1-16) and Group III (Claims 28-38) in one or more divisional applications.

Status of the Claims

By this reply, Applicant canceled non-elected Claims 1-16 and 28-38; and added new Claims 39-65. As a result, Claims 17-27 and 39-65 are currently pending, in which Claim 17 is an independent claim from which Claims 18-27 and 39-55 depend, and Claim 56 is a new independent claim from which Claims 57-65 depend.

New Claims

Applicant added new Claims 36-65 to add embodiments to the elected invention to which Applicant is entitled. Applicant believes that such new claims are supported by the Application as filed and do not constitute new matter. **Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to**

consider these new claims as part of the elected invention, so that Group II will now cover Claims 17-27 and 39-65.

Claims 39-55 depend ultimately from elected Claim 17 and are supported as follows (all cited paragraph numbers originate from the specification as filed):

- Claim 39 is supported by at least originally filed Claims 3 & 4 and paragraph [0032] on Page 9 of the specification as filed;
- Claims 40 and 41 are supported by at least paragraph [0032] on Page 9 of the specification as filed;
- Claims 42 and 43 are supported by at least paragraphs [0013] on Page 3 and [0030] on Page 8 of the specification as filed;
- Claim 44 is supported by at least originally filed Claim 9;
- Claim 45 dependent from Claim 17 via intervening Claim 44 is supported by at least originally filed Claim 10;
- Claim 46 dependent from Claim 17 via intervening Claim 44 is supported by at least originally filed Claims 9 & 10 and Table 2 of the specification as filed;
- Claim 47 dependent from Claim 17 via intervening Claim 46 is supported by at least Table 2 of the specification as filed;
- Claim 48 is supported by at least originally filed Claim 13;
- Claim 49 dependent from Claim 17 via intervening Claim 48 is supported by at least originally filed Claim 14;
- Claim 50 dependent from Claim 17 via intervening Claim 48 is supported by at least originally filed Claim 15;
- Claim 51 dependent from Claim 17 via intervening Claim 48 is supported by at least originally filed Claim 16;
- Claims 52 and 53 are supported by at least paragraph [0034] on Page 9 of the specification as filed;
- Claim 54 dependent from Claim 17 via intervening Claim 25 is supported by at least originally filed Claims 25 and 37; and
- Claim 55 is supported by at least originally filed Claim 28.

Additionally, Applicant added a new independent Claim 56 which is narrower in scope than original claim 17 (which is part of the elected invention). New Claims 57-65 depend from this new independent Claim 56. Claims 56-65 are supported by the originally filed Application as follows (all cited paragraph numbers originate from the specification as filed):

- Claim 56 is supported by at least originally filed Claim 17; Catalyst Examples 1, 2 & 4-9; and paragraph [0034] on Page 9 of the specification as filed;
- Claim 57 is supported by at least originally filed Claim 11;
- Claim 58 is supported by at least originally filed Claim 12;
- Claim 59 is supported by at least the disclosed catalyst Examples and paragraph [0030] on Page 8 of the specification as filed;
- Claim 60 is supported by at least originally filed Claim 5;
- Claim 61 is supported by at least originally filed Claim 8;
- Claim 62 is supported by at least Table 2 and paragraph [0052] on Page 15 of the specification as filed;
- Claim 63 is supported by at least paragraph [0053] on Page 15 of the specification as filed;
- Claim 64 is supported by at least paragraph [0052] on Page 15 of the specification as filed; and
- Claim 65 is supported by at least paragraph [0024] on Page 6 of the specification as filed.

Amendments to the Specification

Paragraphs [0038] and [0053] have been amended to correct typographical errors. All cited paragraph numbers originate from the specification as filed. No new matter was added by way of amendment to these paragraphs of the specification.

Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement

A supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is filed herewith with additional relevant art. Applicant respectfully requests that the attached documents be considered and officially cited in the examination of this Application.

Appl. No. 10/706,644
Response dated June 30, 2006
Reply to Office Action of June 6, 2006

Conclusion

Applicant believes that this reply fully responds to the Office Action dated June 6, 2006. Applicant further believes that no new matter was added by way of amendments to the specification, amendments to original claims, and addition of new claims.

If resolution of any remaining issues pertaining to restriction groups and election may be facilitated by a telephone conference, or if the Examiner has any questions or comments or otherwise feels it would be advantageous, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at (281) 293-4751.

Applicant further believes that the cancellation of twenty-seven (27) claims (i.e., Claims 1-16 and 28-38) in this Response is sufficient to cover the addition of twenty-seven (27) new claims (i.e. Claims 39-65) so that no additional claim fee is required.

However, should any fees have been inadvertently omitted, or if any additional fees are required or have been overpaid, or in the event that an extension of time is necessary in order for this submission to be considered timely filed, the Commissioner is authorized to please appropriately charge or credit those fees to Deposit Account Number 16-1575 of ConocoPhillips Company, Houston, Texas and consider this a petition for any necessary extension of time.

Respectfully submitted,



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